THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. However, the paper refers to the adverse effect of the Urban Land Ceiling and Regulation Act on effordable housing for the poor.

(c) and (d) Proposals for amendment of the Act have been formulated. However, no final decision has been taken.

Embezzlement in D.D.A.

2165. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a joint memorandum has been received by Goverment seeking appointment of a High Power Commission to probe into the embezzlement of Rs. 45 crores by the then DDA Chief Engineer of East Zone (Now Engineer Member) and his immediate suspension alongwith his associates; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The memorandum has referred to a C.V.C. report on the investigation of part of the alleged Rs. 45 crores scandal in East Delhi involving the then Chief Engineer (Now Engineer Member) and other engineers, bogus payments to contractors, wrong allotment of contracts etc. It has also refered to other malpractices of DDA Engineering Wing and low level of construction of Houses.

DDA has reported that intensive examination report in respect of 14 works of East Zone and 2 works of South Zone have been received from the CTE's organization of CVC and are under detailed investigation by DDA. Explanation memos have been issued by DDA to a number of officials. DDA has further reported that the preliminary report of Chief Engineer (Quality Control) relating to 70 works spread over four divisions has been received and is under process.

DDA has reported that the report in respect of two allegations referred to CBI is still awaited.

This Ministry can take action only after the competent authority in DDA has obtained the first stage advice of CVC in the matter and makes a recommendation to the Ministry thereon in respect of action proposed against officers of the level of Chief Engineers and above.

Creation of Independent Pools in Delhi

2166. SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the irregularities being committed by the authorities in charge of independent pools of accommodation created in Delhi which result in the loss of revenue to Government;

(b) if so, whether there is any provision for conducting special audit to be supervised by the C.A.G., his Ministry or the Directorate of Estates to curb the tendency to indulge in irregularities by the independent pools of accommodation; and

(c) if not, in what manner Government propose to ensure that there is no loss of revenue to Government as a result of the operation of independent pools of accommodation in Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) to (c) The Departmental Pools are created and controlled by the concerned Administrative Deptt./Ministry and complaints of irregularities in the management of such pools are not normally received in this Ministry. However, in case any such complaints are received, they are forwarded to the Department concerned for appropriate action.

Monitoring of Complaints against D.D.A.

2167. SHRI PASUMPON THAKIRUTTINAN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any machinery in her Ministry to monitor the complaints against D.D.A.

(b) if so, what is the number of complaints received in the Ministry of which appeared in the local media, against D. D. A. during the last one year and how many of them have been sorted out and how many of them are still lingering; and

(c) what time limit, if any, is allowed to the D. D. A. to settle a complaint after it is taken up by the Ministry for redressal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : SOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) to (c) DDA is a statutory autonomous Authority whose operations are supervised by an Authority under the Chairmanship of Lieutenant Governo. As such, the complaints received from the public are referred to DDA for necessary action. The compliance in this regard is monitored by the Administrative division in the Ministry. No record is kept in the Ministry of number of complaints received and disposed of, as this is a continuous process. Frequent meetings are held with DDA officials to settle outstanding issues. The Directorate of Public Grievances in the Government of India also requires into specific grievances and initiates action for early redressal.

Installation of Fire Safety Equipment in D.D.A. Flats

2168. SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that flats constructed by DDA have not been provided with fire fighting devices individually; if so, the number of cluster of DDA flats with number of flats in each area not having such facility;

(b) whether these flats are being served by centralised Government/Delhi Admn. Fire Fighting Service Stations in their respective areas; and

(c) whether Government have exempted Group Housing Societies with less than 200 flats from installation of individual fire fighting equipment; if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RE- (a) The DDA has reported that as per fire fighting guidelines issued by Chief Fire Officer, Delhi, for block of flats upto 15 metres i.e. (up to four storeyed flats), individual fire fighting devices and arrangements are not required.

However for multi-storeyed residential flats constructed by DDA, fire fighting